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SOME NOTES RELATIVE TO GIFTS TO DISTINGUISHED
CITIZENS, PRINCIPALLY VIRGINIANS, AUTHOR-
IZED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, OR
COUNCIL OF VIRGINIA, 1780 TO 1860.

Horse and sword presented to Col. William Campbell. House journal, Nov. 10, 1780, p. 13.

"Elegant sword and pair of pistols" ordered to be presented to Capt. John Jouett. House journal, June 12, 1781, p. 15.

"To procure General Edward Stevens an elegant horse together with furniture pursuant to a resolution of the assembly." Council journal, July 30, 1781.

"Two elegant geldings to be purchased and presented to Gen. Nathaniel Greene". Ordered by the general assembly, and by the council, Jan. 14, 1782.

Horse and furniture voted to Gen. Daniel Morgan by the general assembly. Council journal July 11, 1782.

An elegant sword to be purchased for Capt. John Jouett. Council journal Dec. 14, 1786.

"To Commodore Stephen Decatur, and to lieutenants William H. Allen and John B. Nicholson, appropriate swords, commemorative of the late gallant exploit of themselves and their brave compatriots of the frigate United States." Resolution of general assembly passed Jan. 2, 1813.

"For his gallant conduct in the action between the United States frigate Constitution and his Britannic Majestie's frigate Guerriere", an appropriate sword to Midshipman John Tayloe. Resolution of general assembly passed Feb. 5, 1813.

Sword for Lieutenant Charles W. Morgan of the Constitution. Resolution of General Assembly, Feb. 10, 1813.

To John J. Yarnall, a lieutenant on board the *Lawrence*, in the battle of Lake Erie, an appropriate sword, commemorative of that gallant exploit. Resolution of general assembly passed Jan. 1, 1814.

To Captain Arthur Sinclair, distinguished in the battle which took place on Sept. 28, 1813, between the United States squadron

and that of the enemy, on Lake Ontario, an appropriate sword, commemorative of his distinguished gallantry. Resolution of general assembly passed Jan. 13, 1814.

To Major General Winfield Scott, for gallantry at Chippewa and Niagara, an appropriate sword. Resolution of general assembly Feb. 12, 1816.

To Major General Edmund Pendleton Gaines, for repelling an attack on Fort Erie Aug. 15, 1814, a suitable sword. Resolution of general assembly Feb. 12, 1816.

To Lieutenant Colonel Geo. M. Brooke, for conduct in sortie from Fort Erie, and at battles of Chippewa, Niagara and Bridgewater, an appropriate sword. Resolution of general assembly Feb. 12, 1816.

To nearest male relative of Capt. John Ritchie, who fell covered with wounds on plains of Bridgewater, an appropriate sword. Resolution of general assembly Feb. 12, 1816.

To nearest male relative of Major Andrew Hunter Holmes, who fell, covered with wounds, near Michillimackinac, an appropriate sword. Resolution of general assembly Feb. 12, 1816.

To Captain Lewis L. Warrington, for skill and gallantry in capturing the enemy's brig Epervier, an appropriate sword. Resolution of general assembly Feb. 14, 1816.

To Capt. Robert Henley for important services in capture of British forces on Lake Champlain, an appropriate sword. Resolution of general assembly Feb. 14, 1816.

Sword for Captain R. H. Bell. Resolution of General Assembly, Feb. 2, 1835.

To Major General Zachary Taylor, for skill, courage, gallantry and patriotism displayed at Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, Monterey, a sword with suitable devices. Resolution of general assembly, Feb. 9, 1847.

To Lieutenant Colonel Matthew M. Payne, for services at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma a sword with suitable devices. Resolution of general assembly, Feb. 9, 1847.

Letter of Col. M. M. Payne, of Bellfield, Goochland County, Va., dated 5th March, 1847, to Governor Wm. Smith, acknowledging receipt of a letter of 22d February transmitting resolution of

the legislature, instructing the governor "to procure a sword with suitable devices to be presented (to Col. Payne) for services in the battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma."

To Lieutenant Colonel J. Garland, for services at Monterey, a sword with suitable devices. Resolution of general assembly Feb. 9, 1847.

To each of the company officers of the Virginia regiment of volunteers, a sword. Resolution of general assembly, Feb. 20, 1847.

Swords to "annexed officers, natives of the state, who distinguished themselves in the late brilliant campaign in Mexico; also a sword to William Bertrand Alburtis of Berkeley County, only surviving child of Capt. William Alburtis who was killed at Vera-Cruz. . . . ; also a silver medal to Sergeant Updegraff. . . ." (List of officers follows) Resolution April 4, 1848. Journal House of Delegates 1847/48, p. 458, 459.

Swords for Thomas B. Randolph, Francis Otway Bird, and Harrold Smith "who distinguished themselves during the last war with Great Britain." Resolution April 4, 1848. Journal House of Delegates 1847/48, p. 460.

Gold medal for General Winfield Scott, Feb. 7, 1848. The inscription was changed by Resolution of general assembly of March 26, 1850.

Gold medal for Capt. William Lewis Herndon of the United States Navy. Resolution of general assembly adopted Jan. 23, 1858. Va. acts, 1857/58, page 286.

Promotion of Lieut. M. F. Maury. Resolution April 8, 1858. Va. acts, 1857/58, p. 287.

Sword for Lieut. Robt. B. Pegram, of the United States Navy. Resolution of general assembly, Apr. 6, 1858. Va. acts 1857/58, p. 287.

Resolution relative to the presentation of a sword to Col. Philip St. George Cooke, H. Doc. 62, 1859/60

Joint resolution complimentary to Col. Thomas T. Fauntleroy, colonel first regiment, U. S. dragoons, for "gallant and distinguished service," and commending him for promotion to rank of brigadier general. Joint resolution 30. Acts of assembly 1859/60, p. 706-707

Governor Barbour, from the difficulty of having the swords made in Richmond had directed the swords to be made in Philadelphia, and confided the superintendence of the work to Col. William Duane. The delay was due to the war. The swords were finished in October and two had already been received. (Letter of Governor W. C. Nicholas, Dec. 30, 1815. House journal 1815/16, p. 86. In the archives there are letters of Duane on this subject attached to the governor's letter.)

Sword presented to date only to Col. Geo. M. Brooke, according to resolution of General Assembly of 1815/16, adopted Feb. 12, and 14, 1816. Governor was ordered to present suitable swords with appropriate emblems, devices and inscriptions, to Major General Scott, Major General Gaines, and Col. Geo. M. Brooke of the Army of the United States; to nearest male relative of Capt. John Ritchie and Major Andrew Hunter Holmes, both of whom fell in battle, in late war with Great Britain, also to Captains Lewis Warrington and Robert Henley of the United States Navy. All the swords which had been voted before February, 1816, were made in every part, ornamented and finished in Philadelphia, with devices and inscriptions furnished by Col. Wm. Duane of that city. (Abstract of letter of Governor Thomas M. Randolph, Feb. 24, 1822)

Governor Giles presented a sword to Philip Norborne Nicholas, as representative of nearest male relative of Major Andrew Hunter Holmes. Received on behalf of Governor Holmes. (House journal, 1827/28, Document 2, p. 10)

The swords were executed by Harvey Lewis under the direction of Gen. Cadwallader of Philadelphia. Presented publicly July 4, 1827. No one appeared to receive the sword for nearest male relative of Captain Henley and it was retained. (Governor's message and documents 1827/28, p. 1)

To Mr. Thomas Ritchie, as the representative of the nearest male relative of Captain John Ritchie, "who fell covered with wounds and with glory, on the plains of Bridgewater, fighting in defence of his country's rights and honor." "To be passed over to your elder brother, Col. Archibald Ritchie." Mr. Thos. Ritchie replied and received it on behalf of his brother. (House journal 1827/28, Document 2, p. 9, 10).